

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 12232 111318Z

60

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7594

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RP, CH, UR

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE RELATIONS WITH PRC & USSR: MORE STRAWS IN
WIND

REF: MANILA 12123

1. MANILA PRESS OF OCTOBER 11 PROVIDES INTRIGUING SUGGESTIONS
OF GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN BALANCED
APPROACH TO "NORMALIZATION" WITH USSR AND PRC (ALTHOUGH
AS NOTED REFTEL SCALES ARE TIPPING TOWARD PRC AT THE
MOMENT.) ITEMS FROM ONE PAPER (DAILY EXPRESS):

---FRONT PAGE STORY ANNOUNCES ARRIVAL FIRST SHIPMENT
OF OIL FROM CHINA DUE TOMORROW (10,500 TONS.)

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---ED PAGE COLUMN PRAISES PRESIDENT'S DECISION (ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY) TO ENCOURAGE CHINESE PARTICIPATION IN OIL EXPLORATION IN PHILIPPINES. (PRESS HAS MADE MUCH OF THEORY THAT CHINESE HAVE "THEIR OWN TECHNIQUES" FOR FINDING OIL--GEOLOGICAL ACUPUNCTURE?)

---REPORT OF SPEECH DELIVERED BY MARCOS IN ILOILO OCT 10 (DECLARING THAT AMNESTY FOR MUSLIM REBELS WOULD CONTINUE) IN WHICH HE SAID "WE ARE NOW ON THE WAY TO FORGING RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA. IT IS MY HOPE THAT IN THE YEARS TO COME, WE SHALL BE ABLE TO LINK HANDS WITH THE REST OF THE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY". (IMPLICATION IS THAT SOVIET TIES MIGHT BE FINALIZED ONLY "IN X YEARS TO COME" ESPECIALLY SINCE GOP ALREADY HAS RELATIONS WITH MOST OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. WE DO NOT KNOW WHEN SPEECH WAS DRAFTED)

---EDITORIAL LAUDING ROMULO'S PRO-SOVIET REMARKS AT UN AND NOTING "SIGNIFICANCE" OF FACT THAT "SAME EFFORTS" BEING MADE TO FORGE OFFICIAL TIES WITH USSR AS WITH PRC.

---ON PAGE FACING EDITORIAL PAGE, AP STORY (UNDER LARGE HEADLINE "TAIPEH MAY SET UP RP TRADE OFFICE") IMPLYING TO CASUAL READER GROC AGREEMENT TO LESS FORMAL ASSOCIATION.

2. CHINESE NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION WELL ATTENDED. GOP REPRESENTATION INCLUDED ACTING FOREIGN SECRETARY COLLANTES (WHO PRESENTED TOAST TO CHAING-KAI-SHEK), FORMER PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL, FORMER VICE PRESIDENT LOPEZ AND CHIEF JUSTICE MAKLINTAL. EMBOFF OVERHEARD CHIEF OF PROTOCOL REMARK TO KHMER AMBASSADOR "WE ALL CAME BECAUSE THIS IS PROBABLY THE LAST TIME."
SULLIVAN

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